

# A GUIDE FROM THE C CRADLE to the GRAVE BEING

A Composition for Young and Old  
Wherein we may see the  
Stages of this Life, from the Days  
of tender Infancy, to the Days of  
old Age, reduc'd to Children's

To which is added,

The Three Great STEPS to E  
ternal Salvation: As FAITH, our  
our Guide, HOPE, to be our Com  
fort; And CHARITY, to cover  
a Multitude of Faults.

WITH

An INSTRUCTION for CHILDREN  
to be Obedient to their Parents.

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## The First STAGE.



OR'D, what is Man! a Sigh'a Cry,  
 Looks up, and then begins to die!  
 Death steals upon us, while we're green;  
 Behind us digs a Grave unseen.

Tis true, the Babe does no Offence,  
 Grac'd, hind the Lamb, with Innocence;  
 And when his Feet can take their Course,  
 He merrily rides the Hobby-Horse.

But surely this seems to presage  
 The Vanity of riper AGE;  
 When knowing more, we practise less,  
 Unless it be in Wickedness.

## The Second STAGE.



NOW see the Youth like Peacock fair,  
 Who seems to fly into the Air;  
 He views far distant Shores and Straights,  
 And Princes Courts in foreign Lands.  
 If Nature can delight his Sense,  
 Or Learning give him Eloquence;  
 Nothing is wanting to inspire,  
 Or make the Lookers-on admire!

Thus blest by Birth, by Riches more,  
 His Parts and Person all adore;  
 And thus he spends his pleasing Time,  
 And glories in his Youthful Power.



**B**ehold the Emblem of the Dove,  
The pretty Turtles, making Love ;  
just so the Youth does court the Fair,  
In Words that very melting are.

This we must say for CUPID's Part,  
He seldom shoots, but wounds the Heart ;  
Nature, and Passion, too extreme,  
Do add unto the Youthful Flame.

Marriage proceeds thro' various Toys,  
From whence come handsome Girls and Boys :  
Thus Nature still the World doth fill,  
According to the Heavy Will.

## The Fourth STAGE.



**N**O W Honour calls him from the Arms  
Of his dear Spouse, to Wars Alarms  
Bloody Fields his Sword he draws,  
And stands up for his Sov'reign's Cause..

No conquering Lion seems to be  
More valiant or more fierce than He :  
He sets whole Cities in a Fire,  
And makes his Foes in Blood expire.

In Warlike Trumpets he delights,  
And, scorning Death, he scurvy fights ;  
'Till, like the Macedonian King,  
His Valour through the World does ring.

## The Fifth STAGE.



O W Policy supplies the Want of Strength,  
 And Force is measur'd by another Length;  
 Yet even here, the Power of the Brain,  
 Is greater Things can do, than Force attain.  
 Uncertain are the Strange Events of War,  
 And rash Attempts do Vict'ry drive afar;  
 While prudent Conduct, more than greater Pow'r,  
 Will valiant Heroes most Renown'd devour.  
 Nor need the General himself fall on,  
 Who gives Command, the Business soon is done;  
 But when both Wit and Valour do unites,  
 Then must confess the Heroe looks most bright.

## The Sixth STAGE.



**L**ORD, what is this we do behold,  
A Miser with his Bags of Gold !  
He hoards for those who may it spend,  
And hoarding, thinks not of his End.

When Death appears, it is not Wealth,  
Can purchase us one Moment's Health ;  
It is not Ships at our Command,  
Can sail with us from his sure Hand..

Then what avails his Silver bright,  
When his poor Soul shall take its Flight,  
And enter into ETERNITY,  
The Place of Joy or Misery ?

## The Fourth STAGE.



HOU; once the Pride of Christendom,

To what is now thy Glory come?

Where is thy Beauty and thy Glory,

Sceptre, and thy Diadems?

Cities have fallen, and so must you;

what is this I see in View?

Death appearing with his Dart,

strikes the Monarch to the Heart,

Coffin and a winding Sheet,

proper Emblem, very fit,

warn Men of their future State,

or they prepar'd may meet their Fate.

## FAITH, A sure Guide to Salvation.



FAITH is a Gift Mankind should seek,  
By Prayer, for God gives to the Meek.  
This is the Eye whereby we see  
The Glory of Heaven's Majesty.

Great Faith by Abraham was shewn  
To offer up his only SON;  
But when the Good Man shew'd his Truth,  
Kind Heaven in Pity sav'd the Youth.

Hear what the Lord Almighty saith,  
Obey ye Faithful unto Death;  
And then I'll surely give to thee  
Crown of IMMORTALITY.

## HOPE, the greatest Comfort of Mankind.



**H**OPE cures in us all sad Dispair,  
And when in Miseries we are,  
Fate unkind, or cruel Foes,  
It seems to save us from our Woes.

Tis better far to cease TO BE,  
Than Being, have no Hopes in Thine;  
Without it we are all lost in Thrall;  
And, losing Hope, we lose our ALL.

**C**HRIST is our Hope, and who retains  
This Anchor, Heaven will be his Gains;  
This is the Admiral of the Fleet,  
By whom we shall our Saviour find.

CHARITY, covereth a Multitude of Sin.



**B**lest Charity, thy sov'reign Good,  
Will be rewarded by Christ's Blood,  
For those who give unto the Poor,  
Shall live in Heav'n for Evermore.

'Tis said, that of the Virtues three,  
The most belov'd is CHARITY ;  
For which this Reason is Assign'd,  
It covers many Sins we find.

Pity the Stranger in Distress,  
The Widow, and the Fatherless ;  
Then Heav'n in Time will pity Thee,  
And Crown thee with Felicity ;

### *Children's Duty to their Parents.*

It is their Duty to honour their Parents, for under God they are the Authors of their Being, and are bound to take Care of them, when they are not able to take Care of themselves. If Parents are in a Passion, Children should be meek in their Expressions; for a soft Word setteth aside Anger. Be Obedient to your Parents' good Instructions and Admonitions. Obey their Commands. Submit to their Corrections. If you commit a Fault, and are told of it, do it no again.

### *Children's Behaviour at Home.*

Behave thyself uncommoded. Sit not before your Parents, unless sent for, or called. If thou seest thy Parents talking together, or in a Council, be silent with them. If thou speakest to thy Parents, and see them engag'd draw back, and leave thy Busines till afterwards; but if then speak, be sure to whisper. Never speak to thy Parents without some Title of Respect, as Sir, Master, &c. Approach near thy Parents at no Time without a Bow. Dispute not with thy Parents. Go not forth without their Parents' Leave, and return within the Time limited. Come not into the Room where the Parents are with Servants, unless thou be called, and then decently, and at bidding go out. Quarrel nor contend with thy Brethren or Sisters, but live in Love.

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